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## FORMER JACKSONVILLE SAILOR SENTENCED TO SIX YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR TRANSPORTATION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY AND POSSESSION OF OBSCENE MATERIALS

Jacksonville, FL - U.S. District Judge Marcia Morales Howard today sentenced Matthew Steven Orth, age 22, a resident of Jacksonville, to a term of imprisonment of six years and a term of supervised release of 15 years for transportation of child pornography and possession of obscene materials. Orth also was ordered by the Court to register under federal and state law as a sex offender. Orth was arrested in Jacksonville on August 29, 2008, and has been in federal custody since that time.

According to court documents, Orth was an enlisted sailor in the United States Navy during the 2005-2007 time period. After purchasing a laptop computer in 2005, Orth downloaded pornography, including visual depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct and obscene cartoons depicting children, using both a wireless internet connection onboard Naval Station (NS) Mayport and a cable connection in his barracks room. Orth stored some of the downloaded child pornography and obscenity on an external media drive, which he obtained several months after he purchased his laptop computer.

According to court documents, on or about August 13, 2007, members of the Information Technology (IT) staff onboard the U.S.S. Roosevelt were conducting routine network maintenance when they identified two images saved on the ship's server under a password-protected profile belonging to Orth. The two images were patently obscene cartoon depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. The IT staff notified the ship's chain-of-command, and investigators boarded the ship shortly thereafter in Trieste, Italy. Navy investigators seized all of Orth's electronic equipment pursuant to Orth's consent, and initial forensic analysis revealed the existence of both child pornography and child sex cartoons on all five pieces of electronic media belonging to Orth. Subsequent forensic analysis of Orth's computer equipment revealed hundreds of images of child pornography, including several videos, and child sex cartoons.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For information Project Childhood, more about Safe please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

This case was investigated by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. Assistant United States Attorney D. Rodney Brown and Special Assistant United States Attorney Ronald D. Desantis handled the prosecution of this case.